Testing of Akash Missile

3396. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India again test fired sucessfully the Akash Missile from the Chandipur Range on Orissa Coast on October 3, 2005;

(b) what aspects, targeting capability and range etc., were tested; and

(c) how far the same was found successful and accurate; and

(d) the progress so far made in the missile development programme?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Akash Missile System was flight tested on 3rd October, 2005 to demonstrate, target intercept during simultaneous launch against two targets. All the main mission objectives were achieved.

(d) Prithvi and Agni missile systems have been inducted and Nag and Akash Missile systems are ready for users' trials.

Commissioning of pollution controlling vehicles by Indian Navy

†3397. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Navy is preparing to commission pollution controlling vessels in the sea, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of oil tankers and ships sunk in Indian territorial waters during last three years and the quantity of oil spread in the seas and to which extent it has become dangerous to the country;

(c) whether Government of India had imposed a ban on the use of 25 year old tankers but it is still being violated; and

(d) the steps Government are taking to save their sea area?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. However, the Coast Guard has placed order for the indigenous

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.